

27 January 1967

NOTE FOR: Carl

SUBJECT : Space

1. Last night and this morning I took a second look at some places which I recalled as appearing to be relatively unused. There might be some possibilities in these areas, and other suggestions are listed below in what seems to me to be the order of their feasibility and desirability.

2. There are a number of shops located on the ground floor between corridors G and J. A hard look might show that it is feasible to completely remove several of these shops and/or consolidate. The Electric Shop, for example, is a pretty huge area with almost nothing in it except a few machines. Considering the state of development of the building that kind of support would be pretty hard to justify. Anything that was needed that required use of machine tools could certainly be made up in a shop outside this building and brought in. The plumbers and the carpenters also have shops, and in addition to this there is quite a bit of shop space in the basement. When I mentioned this to [redacted] he said the GSA had never turned these areas over to the Agency !!! It seems to me it would be a good idea to ask the landlord to be among the first to leave.

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3. The gymnasium area in the basement would appear to be another prospect - especially the long corridor that is used as an indoor track. This corridor is something like 90 yards long and 5 or 6 yards wide. 18 offices, for example, could be created with temporary partitions, with each office having dimensions about 10 by 15 feet. In a crunch double occupancy of these offices would even be feasible. Because this area runs right under OCS and is not particularly noisy, this might be a good spot for some of Briggs' Junior Programmers.

4. Yesterday, John Crowley suggested that the Auditorium be converted to office space -- that is a very large area indeed and it really doesn't get much use.

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5. If we really put our mind to it, I do believe the OCS machines could be moved out so long as a terminal arrangement was left here so that programmers, etc., could get data in and out and not have to travel in many cases. All regular production work could be carried back and forth by messenger with no strain. This idea seems to have some built in leverage for suggesting that all other computing machinery move at the same time into a common location with only terminals remaining here. Ultimately, this might bring about a de facto consolidation of our currently fragmented machinery.

6. An alternative to moving out the machines might be to move a number of OCS programmers out to IBM's new building. I was surprised to learn that Chuck was providing space for 40 contract people. If most of them are IBM, it might be nice if IBM could house them.

7. If we could get a real handle of how much space stays out of commission on the average because of remodeling, this might show that some relief could be achieved by getting this work done faster -- possibly through using outside contract help for large crash projects.

8. There are a number of areas -- the Intellofax for one -- which can be seen by inspection to be ill organized. There are too many little walls and files spattered about so that space just is not efficiently used. I don't know if there are enough areas of this type to make it worthwhile, but if there are, the aircraft industries approach of putting lots of people in single open spaces might wring out quite a bit of space.

9. From a purely selfish DD/S&T standpoint, I suspect the library reading room might be closed for a long time before anyone realized what had happened. The traffic in there doesn't seem to be very heavy at any time. Along with that sort of space is the room used for briefings on Overhead Photo Missions. I have attended several of these and get the impression that in most cases this is not a very valuable function.

10. Although I haven't seen the areas, I understand there is a very large lounge where the couriers flake out when they are not busy, and Chuck Briggs seems to feel that COMMO's lounge is more than merely ample.

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11. As a sort of last resort it might be possible to emplace a couple of big geodesic domes in the inner court. These could provide almost instant space, be provided with air conditioning units, etc., so they would drain only electricity from the main building. These would have the advantage of existing security as well as proximity, etc., and really provide a lot of space.

12. I don't know what the current occupancy is, but the 8th floor which exists over two of the wings might bear a look also. It can't all be communications gear.



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